THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) Consequent upon Government's decision to appoint a new Foreign Secretary, Shri A. P. Venkateswaran's request for voluntary retirement from Service was acceded to. There is no general demoralisation among Government Officials.

भारतीय उच्चायोगों/दूतावासों में हिन्दी में कार्य

696. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या **विदेश** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विदेशों में स्थित भारतीय दूतावासों, उच्चायोगों और वाणिज्य दूतावासों में से कितनों में 75 प्रतिशत, 50 प्रतिशत या 25 प्रतिशत कार्य हिन्दी में किया जा रहा है ; और कितने देशों में भाषान्तरों, आशुलिपिकों, टंककों और टाइपराइटरों की पर्याप्त व्यवस्था है तथा कितने देशों में ये सुविधायें उपलब्ध नहीं कराई गई हैं ; और

(ख) वहां पर पुस्तकालयों और हिन्दी के मौलिक संदर्भ ग्रन्थों की उपलब्धता की क्या स्थिति है जिससे कि विदेशी तथा भारतीय हिन्दी सीख सकें ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० नटवर सिंह) : (क) हमारे मिशन अपने सरकारी कामकाज में नियमित रूप से हिन्दी का प्रयोग नहीं करते हैं। ये मिशन मुख्यालय के साथ कभी-कभी पत्राचार करते समय हिन्दी का प्रयोग करते है, विशेष रूप से हिन्दी का प्रचार किये जाने से सम्बद्ध विषयों में। इसके अलावा कुछ मिशनों में प्रचार संबंधी कुछ कार्य भी हिन्दी में किया जा रहा है। हमने हिन्दी के टाइपराइटर तकरीबन सभी मिशनों को मुहैया कर दिये है । विदेशों में स्थित हमारे कुछ मिशनों में हिन्दी आशुलिपिकों और हिन्दी टंककों की भी नियुक्ति की गई है ।

(ख) विदेश स्थित हमारे मिशनों के पुस्तकालयों में हिन्दी खण्ड भी है। हम अपने विदेश स्थित मिशनों को नियमित रूप से भारतीय संस्कृति, साहित्य, धर्म, इतिहास जैसे विषयों पर हिन्दी की पुस्तकें भेजते रहते है ताकि हिन्दी पुस्तकों का एक मानक संग्रह तैयार हो सके और उन्हें हिन्दी के प्रचार में लगे स्वैच्छिक हिन्दी संगठनों/व्यक्तियों को दान भेंट स्वरूप भी दिया जा सके ।

Amendment of Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Act, 1983

697. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a set of proposals have been made by the Government of Assam for the amendment of Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Act, 1983;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The important proposals are—

(i) that, each Tribunal should have only one member as against three members at present;

(ii) that, in case of private complaints the provisions (a) requiring the applicant to be residing within 3 KMs from the place of residence of the person in relation to whom the application for being declared an illegal migrant is made, and (b) requiring payment of fee of Rs. 25/- with every complaint, should be deleted;

(iii) that, in case where a question arises whether a person is an illegal migrant or not, the burden of proof should lie on such person; and

(iv) that, the powers of revision vested in the High Court may be done away with.

(c) The proposals are under consideration.

698. [*Transferred to the 6th March, 1987.*]

Proposal to charge interest for delayed payment of gratuity

699. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised the proposed scheme under which employers are to be charged interest for delayed payment of gratuity; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) It has been decided to make a suitable provision in the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 making it obligatory on the employers to pay interest at a specified rate if the gratuity is not paid within 30 days from the date it becomes due. For this purpose, a suitable amending Bill will be introduced in the Parliament shortly.

Agitation against Hindi imposition

700. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent agitation in Tamil Nadu against imposition of Hindi; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to implement Nehru's assurance to non-Hindi speaking people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government are aware of the recent agitation in Tamil Nadu against alleged imposition of Hindi.

(b) The assurance given by Late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru regarding Hindi has already been incorporated in the Official Language Act, 1963, after amending it in 1967. Section 3(1) of the Official Languages Act, 1963 as amended provides that even after the expiration of the period of fifteen years from the commencement of the Constitution, the English language may continue to be used, in addition to Hindi, for all the official purposes of the Union for which it was being used immediately before 26th January, 1965. Section 3(5) of this Act further provides that this provision shall remain in force until resolutions for the discontinuance of the use of English language have been passed by the legislatures of all the States which have not adopted Hindi as their official language and until after considering these resolutions a resolution for such discontinuance has been passed by each House of Parliament. These legal provisions are being faithfully implemented by Government.

Joint ventures in marine fisheries

701. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to permit large Indian industrial houses and companies coming under MRTP/FERA to establish joint ventures in marine fisheries; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons and justification for the decision and the